

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR 10 March 1952

SUBJECT The Molotov Cooperative Farm
Near Razgrad

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1. Men and women were employed on similar daily tasks. Some of the norms were as follows:

- a. To dig 1 decare, 2 ares of potatoes;
- b. To dig 3 decares of sunflowers;
- c. To dig 6 ares of beets;
- d. To harvest 2 decares of grain;
- e. To gather 8 ares of beans or maize;
- f. To spend a whole working day drying grain; and
- g. To spend a whole working day threshing; workers often were kept at their tasks far into the night.

2. On returning to their billets at night workers had to provide their own food. Those who had parents might find a meal of sorts waiting for them, the result of a day's foraging or quavering. [redacted] would often spend a day searching the fields for a handful of grain which she would then crush and boil.

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3. Shops are full of good things but at fantastic prices. Anyone may buy from these shops, but even if a person had the money to make an occasional purchase, the fear of inquiry as to how the money was obtained would prevent him. The same fear prevents too frequent recourse to the black market. The people, however, are so poor that purchases are seldom made; and those who may have some gold or jewelry to sell find difficulty in doing so for only Communist Party officials have any money to spare. The least dangerous method of obtaining money is to sell medicines on the black market since they are very much in demand and those persons who buy them and benefit by them are not likely to betray the source from whom they were acquired.

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